Fixing of share profits

†823. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is necessary to fix the share of profit for drug manufactures in order to regularize drug manufacturing industry in the country;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B. K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) As per Para 7 of Drugs (Prices Control), Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95), maximum 100% of manufacturing price of medicines is allowed on the Scheduled formulations to account for the post manufacturing expenses including profit margins of manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers. In the case of an imported Scheduled formulation such margin shall not exceed 50% of the landed cost. No specific percentage of profit is fixed for Scheduled and Non-Scheduled formulations under DPCO, 95.

Draft National Pharmaceuticals Policy-2006 was prepared by this Department after extensive discussions with various stakeholders and in line with the declared objective of the government in the National Common Minimum Programme. This Policy was submitted before the Cabinet for its approval. The Cabinet considered the Policy in its meeting held on 11-1-2007. It was decided that the matter may, in the first instance, be considered by a Group of Ministers (GOM).

Fake ration cards

824. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the recent study conducted by the National Council of Applied Economic Research, there are nearly 2.3 crore fake ration cards in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the study;

(c) the estimated loss to the PDS due to fake ration cards; and

(d) the action taken by his Ministry, in coordination with the States to weed out the fake ration cards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (d) The TPDS is evaluated from time to time for strengthening it. National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER) conducted a concurrent evaluation of TPDS during the year 2006-07 in six states namely Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Mizoram and Uttar Pradesh. In its reports, there is a mention that there were 2.3 crore excess ration cards in the country in 2006, in comparison with estimated number of families. However, this number is of excess ration cards and not of fake ration cards.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.